UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/1995/559
11 July 1995
ENGLISH
ORIGINAL: ARABIC

LETTER DATED 11 JULY 1995 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF EGYPT TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 10 July 1995 addressed to you by Mr. Amr Moussa, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, in response to the two letters addressed to you on 29 June and 6 July 1995 by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Sudan.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) D. Nabil ELARABY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

95-20555 (E) 110795 110795 120795

/...

Annex

Letter dated 10 July 1995 from the Egyptian Minister for Foreign Affairs addressed to the President of the Security Council

Sir,

The Sudanese Minister for Foreign Affairs has addressed to you several letters on the subject of what he has termed Egyptian aggression against the Sudanese province of Halaib. Two of these letters, dated 29 June and 6 July 1995 respectively, contained all sorts of mendacious allegations in contradiction of historical reality and established legal facts, and I condemned their fallaciousness in correspondence I addressed to you on this matter on 3 and 14 January and 30 May 1993.

Before responding to these allegations, I wish to emphasize that the contents of the above letters may be explained by the aberrant policy of the current Sudanese Government, which has adopted a hostile attitude towards its neighbours, including Egypt, and which finds itself increasingly isolated and is regularly accused, with abundant supporting evidence, of supporting the violent terrorist movements which have appeared in a number of Arab and African countries.

In response to the accusations contained in the two letters, I wish to state the following:

1. Since Sudan's accession to independence in 1956, and to date, all the territories situated to the north of the 22nd parallel have been under Egyptian sovereignty. This is a fact attested to by history and law. Thus the Sudanese claims disputing Egyptian sovereignty over the Halaib region are devoid of any historical or legal foundation. They are nothing more than futile demands, contrary to a correct legal interpretation of the nature of the provisional arrangements made for the benefit of certain Sudanese tribes in a desire to strengthen links between the two peoples. It must be emphasized in this regard that in dealing with such problems it is important to adhere to attested historical and legal facts, while taking into account good-neighbourly relations and the links which have always united Egypt and Sudan.

2. The increasingly virulent tone adopted by the Sudanese Government in the letters it has addressed to the Security Council on this matter may be explained by its desire to avoid the potential international repercussions of the unfriendly policies which it has adopted towards a great many of its neighbours in Africa and the Middle East, the details and regional and international impact of which are well known to you and the members of your august assembly.

3. The unfriendly acts of the Sudanese Government and the excesses which it has engaged in on many occasions against Egypt, its President, Government and people, undermine the friendly relations between the two peoples. Furthermore, these acts have taken on a distinctly hostile tone. Thus, several Egyptian citizens resident in the Sudan have been arrested in a completely arbitrary

manner and imprisoned or subjected to other forms of detention without trial and without any charge having been brought against them. Moreover, Egyptian property in the Sudan, including property of the Egyptian diplomatic mission, has been confiscated, in violation of conventions and recognized norms of international law. In addition, the Sudanese regime has persisted in campaigns and acts which are hostile to Egypt, fabricated facts from nothing and attempted to foster belief in a so-called Egyptian threat in order to undermine the Egyptian Government as well as relations between the two peoples. Lastly, it has recently threatened to denounce the provisions of the agreement currently in force on the waters of the Nile, which is binding on both countries.

4. The Egyptian Government has hitherto refrained from complaining to the Security Council of these acts because it sincerely believed that the historical relations between the Egyptian and the Sudanese peoples would enable a solution to the problem to be found by means of bilateral negotiations.

We now note with regret that the letters addressed to the Security Council by the Sudanese Minister for Foreign Affairs contain all sorts of mendacious allegations which are nothing other than instruments of propaganda aimed at artificially aggravating the situation, purely for domestic purposes, in disregard of the historical links uniting the two countries.

The Egyptian Government, fundamentally attached to the historical links uniting Egypt and Sudan, wishes relations between the two countries to be peaceful and for peace to reign among all the States of the region. In order to attain such an objective, it is essential for all States to respect established rules governing relations among States, to comply with the principles and objectives of the United Nations, and therefore, to cease supporting terrorism, sowing terror throughout entire societies, resorting to sabotage, following extremist policies, betraying the true religion, and distorting thought. These are the measures that we call upon the Sudanese Government and its regime to undertake.

Amr MOUSSA
Minister for Foreign Affairs